

# REVIEW OF THE STATE OF THE BRITISH NATION.

Thursday, January 11, 1768.

**A**ND what if you had a **Constitution** now, and all your **Members** and **Peers** brought in **new** laws?—Do you think, Gentlemen, you would do better things than have been done? Would you mend the **Management**, or murther it? Would you mend it our **Way**, or mend it, (as it were) **your own**? Would a **Tory** **Management** beat the **French** more, and secure our **Trade** more, and discourage **Tyranny** more? Come, Gentlemen, let us go back with you to former Days, when your **High** **Party** had the **Helix**; was the **War** carry'd on better, the **French** better beaten, the **Commerce** better secur'd in the Days of your **Management**, than they are now?

You cry out of **Mismanagement**, and a **sinking** **Island**, a **low**, **desperate** **Nation**, and the **Causes** of our **Misfortunes** must be re-

moved; **Would** to **GOD** the **Causes** were removed, and were that to be done, it might be needful to examine, what are the true **Causes** of our **Misfortunes**, in which some **Discoveries** might be made to our **Advantage**, and the **Spring** of all our **Miseries** would be found to be, where many **People** do not look for it.

But pray, Gentlemen **High** **Flyers**, were there no **Mismanagement** under your **Government**, under your **Parties** **Management**? Had we no **Disasters**, when your **Darlings** and **Champions** had the **Machine** in their **Hands**? Were all the **Wheels** kept in **Motion** regular and exact, when your great **Senators**, tall **Nobles**, &c. were **State** **Ministers**, your **Royals** **Vice** **Admirals**, your **Generals** and **Marshals** **Admirals**, and all was in your own **Hands**? Look back, pray, to those

those Times, how many *Blenheims* and *Ramelles* did you fight, how many *Barcelonas* and *Turins* did you relieve? Pray, reckon them up.

Come, Gentlemen, let's come to an Account with you, had you no Coward Captains in the Fleet? Had you no free-booting Generals in your Army, that went out to plunder, not to fight, and that lost the Marks of their Gallantry in the Wine-sellers of Port St. Mary's? In whose Management was it that Monsieur *Ponty* went away in our View with the Spoils of *Cartagena*? Who convoy'd our *Turkey* Fleet safe into the Hands of the *French*, and then run away to *Ireland*? Was our Trade better secur'd, our Ships less taken, our Secrets and Cabinets less betray'd to the *French*, in your Time than now? If it really was so, stand forth, Gentlemen, produce the Fore-skins of the *Philistines* which you slew, and let us see the Particulars, that we may acknowledge the Merit, and come with the more Readiness into the Scheme of your Re-establishing.

But if ye sinned, like your Brethren, if we suffer'd equal Misfortunes in your Conduct, as we do now under a new, then, Gentlemen, I'll make this short Use of it—By the same Rule that these should be put out, by the same Rule you should not be put in, and this Argument, I am sure, will hold; for as you by your Miscarriages brought all the same Things upon us, and were turn'd out for it, as you deserv'd; and these Gentlemen, you quarrel at, have Miscarriages, and they are at your Motion to be turn'd out too; you are no fitter to come in, than they are to stay in; if Persons guilty of such Mismanagement are not fit to abide, Persons formerly guilty of the same, or worse, are not fit to be restored. It can never consist with common Politicks, to take in such as have been guilty of the very same Crimes, for which you pretend these should be turn'd out.

Now, it will be a perfect Test of the Honesty of these Gentlemen's Meaning, when we see them soliciting purely to have Miscarriages detected, and Authors punished, and so far from Partiality to their Party, that they should be content to be excepted as a Party, and should sollicite her Majesty

to trust still to her honest, moderate *Whig* Subjects; and if she does shift Hands, that is, Instruments, she may yet adhere to the honest Party, and carry on the Principle of Moderation, and the present Interest of Religion; Would they do this, it would endear them to honest Men, and convince the World, that their Design is just, that they are the true Patriots, and that Party-Interest is not at the Bottom of all their Pretences.

Again, if it were only Miscarriages they aim'd at, and not Parties, why do they not single out the Miscarriages, and match the Persons to them? —Why do they not speak the Person and the Crime, point them out, and impeach them, then the Guilt would appear, and the Guilty too—But, the Ministry, the whole as a Body, indeed it is speaking plain, 'tis the whole Management they want to change; they point out no single Persons, they have no Eye upon this Mismanager or that, but the whole Body of the *Whig* Interest, as a Party, is the Design, and to restore their old *Tory*, *High-Flying* Managers to their Places.

Now, I think, I have made it clear, that whoever are turn'd out, these are not fit to be brought in; and so, Gentlemen *High-Fliers*, now I joy to issue with you: The present Ministry must be turn'd out, you say; well, suppose that were done any Way, the shortest Way, or how you please, for I will not dispute that with my Lord H—. But still by the same Rule your Party cannot come in; now if the present Instruments are to go out, but your Party are not to come in, would you but speak honestly, what would you say? I am sure, your Party would say—Nay, if it must be a *Whig* that must come in, let even those stay that are in; for it is not a Change of *Whigs*, but a Change from *Whigs* that we aim at.

And what shall we say now to these things, is it a Change of whole Parties we are to look for? Pray then, let us take a View of the Persons, in whose Ministry all the Affairs of this Nation would then be entrusted; and not to name Names, let us take the general Character from their Proceeding in the Country, for by their Works ye shall know them.

First,



*First*, You must have a Set of those who declar'd themselves against the Union, and have since submitted to it, but as a meer Force—That call'd it a lousie Bargain, and took all Occasions to disturb and prevent it, lest we should not be able to make a Breach with our Friends, and break it out into a War.

*Secondly*, We must have a Set of those blessed timorous Patriots, who in meer Concern for the Danger of the Church set themselves in Array against their Neighbours, and were always for keeping the People of *England* in Fear of the Treaty, for Fear of the Church.

We must go back to our Tackers and Consolidators again, we must embrace our Persecutors and Disturbers again, we must return to *Coventry* Tumults and *Deventry* Swearers again; all that Generation, that the Nation has so eminently spued out, and which she has found her self so easie in parting with, all these must come in again.

We must fight the *French* with *Jacobite* Generals, and our Secretaries of State must be such, as think it Matter of Conscience to stir up Subjects to recover their Liberty; that scruple sending Assistance to the *Camisars*, because 'tis arming Subjects against their Sovereign, so by consequence the same great Man must condemn the Revolution.

Blank Passes to *France* and from it, may then be obtain'd as easly as before; and when Spies are first sent over thither, Advertisement may be given of it Time enough to seize them, before they set Foot on Shore; then *France* may recover her Intelligence of our Affairs, and know our Motions again as usual; for Want of which she has been forced to take her Measures from us, not prescribe her Measures to us.

Occasional Bills may then be blessedly re-

vived, and if the House of Lords reject them, they may see, if they can carry on the War by themselves, and in a little time all this senseless ridiculous System of Succession, Union and Toleration shall be unravelled, untwisted, and declared inconsistent with the Liberties and Laws of *England*.

These are some of the Consequences of a Change of Parties in *England*; and certainly the Gentlemen, who are for changing things, cannot think the Nation ripe for such a Turn; they cannot think, the present Establishments of Moderation, Liberty, Toleration, Succession and Union, which have with so much Wisdom, such sedate Thoughts, such excellent Measures, such Difficulty, and such Length of Time been brought about, will be so easly overturned, and therefore they ought to declare themselves on this Head.

Whether it is a removing of some Persons only, who they pretend are guilty of Mismanagement, that they demand, or a Removal of Parties which stand in the Way of the Restoration of their wretched Politics?

If it be the Removal of Persons only, why do they not personally charge them, and bring them to Justice, for what Crimes they can lay upon them?

If it be not that, then it must be a Removal of Parties, as no Question it is; and if so, I must tell them, the Plot is blown, the Mine is sprung, and they are discover'd, the Snare is broke, and the Nation is escaped; we are not to be drawn in after all this Blood and Treasure, to return to *Jacobitism* and *High-Flying* mad Men, which are the same thing; and they would do well to consider of it, before they go on to entangle themselves in so open an Attempt against their Count.y.

## MISCELLANEA.

I Went on with the Affair of the Independence of our Colonies in my last, and was showing, that the Colonies can never seek to shift Hands, and put themselves under the Protection of any foreign Power;

for that no Nation can offer them the Equivalent, to the Advantages they shall lose by parting from *England*, and I have mention'd the *Dutch*, and consider'd it.

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